

**BTO Research Report 409** 

# The Value of the Sugar Beet Crop for Birds and the Farm Environment

[Report A – Uncropped Headlands]

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> A report to British Beet Research Organisation (Project 03/13)

> > June 2005

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#### British Trust for Ornithology

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BTO Research Report No. 409

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Published in July 2007 by the British Trust for Ornithology The Nunnery, Thetford, Norfolk, IP24 2PU, UK

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ISBN 978-1-906204-23-5

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## CONTENTS

### Page No.

List of	f Tables	3
	f Figures	
	f Appendices	
1.	EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	9
2.	METHODS	11
2.1	Site Selection	11
2.2	Sampling Positions for Weeds and Invertebrates	
	2.2.1 Weed sampling	
	2.2.2 Invertebrate sampling	
2.3	Bird Fieldwork for Headland Sites	
2.4	Analyses	
	e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e	
3.	RESULTS	
3.1	Invertebrate Data	13
3.2	Bird Data	
3.3	Interaction with Weeds and Invertebrates	
3.4	Determinants of Bird Densities	
4.	DISCUSSION	
Ackno	owledgements	
	0	
Tables	s	
Figure	es	
-8		
Appen	ndices	

## LIST OF TABLES

### Page No.

Table 1.	Details of sites studied
Table 2.	Seed rain by site for headlands
Table 3.	Weed biomass by site for headlands21
Table 4.	Seed rain by site for crop
Table 5.	Weed biomass by site for crop23
Table 6.	Seasonal average ground cover on headland (%) and season total weed seed rain
Table 7.	A summary of the species groups used in the analysis of birds that were associated with sugar beet headlands
Table 8.	Differences in the densities of bird groups between late May and October on: (A) headland or beet crops or (B) the adjacent boundaries, from 16 beet fields during 2003 and 2004 combined

## LIST OF FIGURES

	Pag	ge No.
Figure 1.	Comparison of seed rain on headlands and cropped land	27
Figure 2.	Comparison of biomass on headlands and cropped land	28
Figure 3.	Trends in bird densities for four amalgamated groups of species between late May and October on headlands ("set-aside"), the 30 m strip of crop adjacent to the headland ("Crop near set-aside") and on the 30 m strip of crop without an adjacent headland ("Crop")	29
Figure 4.	A summary of the total summer count of (the commonest) selected species or species groups using headlands by sugar beet fields	30

## LIST OF APPENDICES

#### Page No.

Table A1.	Weed assessment dates	31
Table A2.	Species of value to birds (as used to compile the bird food group)	32
Table A4a-h. Table A4i-p.	A summary of weeds in set-aside and adjacent crop 2003 A summary of weeds in set-aside and adjacent crop 2004	
Table A5.	Numbers of invertebrates per pitfall trap in sugar beet and surrounding headlands, 2003-2004: year totals	49
Table A6.	Numbers of invertebrates per pitfall trap in sugar beet and surrounding headlands, 2003-2004: June	51
Table A7.	Numbers of invertebrates per pitfall trap in sugar beet and surrounding headlands, 2003-2004: July	53
Table A8.	Numbers of invertebrates per pitfall trap in sugar beet and surrounding headlands, 2003-2004: August	55

#### 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This project examined the plant and invertebrate composition of sugar beet crops and uncropped headlands and recorded the consequent use of these by birds. It was carried out in summer and autumn of 2003 and 2004, studying a total of 16 sites (eight in each year) in East Anglia.

The densities of bird species were higher on headlands than in crops and on average the presence of a headland increased the 'value' of a field to birds by introducing a new habitat in which to forage. Of the birds recorded, some such as thrushes, finches and buntings were probably foraging whilst others, such as Skylarks or Grey Partridge, may have nested within the margins. The increased use of the headlands in late summer and autumn by birds, emphasised the late-season value of the headlands as a food resource, though more for seed-eating finches and buntings than for insectivorous species such as Dunnock, thrushes and wagtails.

Higher bird densities occurred in cropped areas with adjacent headlands compared to cropped areas without adjacent headlands. This difference was likely to have been due to the crops proximity to the headland rather than any tangible difference in the food quality of the cropped areas as a consequence of being next to the headland (i.e. due to weed ingress from the headland). There was an increase in bird densities with increasing weed-seed densities in headlands but this was not significant in cropped areas. When the three sites with game crops adjacent to the headlands were excluded from the analysis, this led to a weaker correlation between headland bird densities and adjacent crop bird densities.

The lack of association between birds and invertebrates is likely to be due to a range of factors including the density of foliage in the headland and the crop and the presence of large mobile beetles which can move around freely in crops (and were caught in larger numbers in the crop than the headlands) but less freely in the headlands. Weed numbers, species, cover and seed production varied greatly between the headlands but were much less variable in the beet crop. The general trend for the headlands to attract birds to the field and into the crop suggests that the use of non-cropped headlands in beet will be particularly beneficial for birds that inhabit farm environments.

#### Objectives

1. To survey headland set-aside as used in beet fields for both invertebrate and plant\* - compositions and bird use.

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- 2. To identify the major invertebrate and plant constituents of the set-aside headlands that are important resources for birds.
- 3. To record presence of any rare plant species in the headlands.
- 4. To evaluate the practicalities, and crop and whole farm cost implications, of improvements to the headlands.

#### 2. METHODS

#### 2.1 Site Selection

Fields of sugar beet (crop) with set-aside headlands (headland) were chosen from a list of growers compiled by Broom's Barn staff. Farms were offered via personal contacts or as the result of a request for volunteers through the Broom's Barn Bulletin. All the beet crops were conventionally managed and the farmers treated the set-aside according to their normal practice. Weed control in the set-aside was either by cutting or herbicide (usually glyphosate) but some were not treated. Sixteen sites in total were surveyed:- eight in 2003 and eight in 2004. Five farms participated in both years although different fields were surveyed in each year. The sites were in Cambridgeshire, Norfolk and Suffolk.

Sites were chosen with set-aside headlands (as opposed to stewardship strips), and were favoured if the headlands were 20 m wide or more, if they were formed from natural regeneration or sown with grasses and if they were not close to woodland. Due to a relatively small pool of offers some were nearer to woodland than desirable, although not completely surrounded by it.

The location and details of sites are given in Table 1.

#### 2.2 Sampling Positions for Weeds and Invertebrates

Sampling points were established on 5 transects per field spread along the margin, at least 30 m apart. Three samples per transect were taken in the headland (15) and three samples per transect in the crop (15) on each sampling occasion. Sampling locations were sited with measurements from the margin of the set-aside headland and were spaced evenly, forming a mirror image in the crop and the set-aside. The distance between samples depended on the width of the headland. Samples on narrow headlands were taken at 3, 6 and 9 m from the margin and on wide margins were taken at 5, 10 and 15m from the edge. Distances in the crop matched those.

#### 2.2.1 Weed sampling

Weeds were counted and cover was estimated monthly in 50 x 50cm quadrats at each sampling point between crop emergence and harvest (June to September in 2002 and May to August in 2003) (see Appendix Table 1A for details of assessment dates). Seed rain traps (each 10cm in diameter) were set in the field at each sampling point and collected monthly when the plant counts were taken between June and September. In the laboratory, seeds were identified to species and tested for viability using the squeeze test. At the last assessment of the season weed biomass was collected from the sample quadrats. All plant material above ground was collected, bagged and taken to the laboratory where it was separated by species. Once separated, the material was dried for 24 hours at 80°C and weighed once dry. Dicotyledon, monocotyledon and weed species of food value to birds (Appendix Table 2A) were analysed separately.

#### 2.2.2 Invertebrate sampling (pitfall sampling)

Pitfalls were also collected from emergence to harvest. Traps measuring 7.5 cm diameter and 10 cm depth were placed into the ground, supported by standard plastic drain pipe, the lip of the trap was level with the soil. A lid allowing beetles to crawl under, but keeping rainwater out, was then placed over the trap. Each trap contained 100 ml of ethylene glycol 50% and distilled water 50 %. Traps were set for two weeks in each of the months June, July and August, after which they were collected, filtered and the collected specimens stored in alcohol in a cold room at 7°C until identified. Invertebrates were identified to various levels, depending on the organisms – e.g. to family for insects, to Order for slugs. Carabid beetles were identified to species from a sub-sample of traps in 2003 (when numbers were very high), and from every trap in 2004.

#### 2.3 Bird Fieldwork for Headland Sites

The bird data were collected from one visit per month to each site, from June to October inclusive in both 2003 and 2004. At each site 30-minute static watches were carried out from a vantage point to record bird movements and distribution into the beet crop, headlands or associated boundary habitats. The observer then walked a transect line around the perimeter of each field, recording on a map, the location and activity of all birds seen or heard. Birds were recorded in association with five habitat categories of interest: (i) the headland margin itself, (ii) the adjacent boundary to the headland margin, (iii) the up to 30 m into the crop adjacent to the headland strip, (iv) the field boundaries without an adjacent headland margin and (v) up to 30 m into the crop along boundaries without a headland margin. The calculated area of each of these categories allowed bird densities to be compared between habitats, to assess the influence of headlands on the use of the adjacent crop by birds. Other recorded details included: crop height, adjacent crop content and boundary characteristics.

#### 2.4 Analyses

Invertebrate and weed data were analysed by analysis of variance using Genstat VI.

The analysis combined species into five groups of interest (Appendix Table 3A). They included: (1) Nine of the 19 species that occur on the Government's Quality of Life indicator for farmland birds: Grey Partridge, Yellow Wagtail, Whitethroat, Greenfinch, Goldfinch, Linnet, Yellowhammer, Reed Bunting and Corn Bunting; (2) Species of high conservation concern, and subject to national Biodiversity Action Plans ('BAP' species): Grey Partridge, Song Thrush, Bullfinch, Linnet and all bunting species; (3) Insectivorous passerines: Yellow and Pied Wagtail, Dunnock, Mistle Thrush, Song Thrush, Blackbird and Whitethroat; and (4) Seed-eating passerines: Tree Sparrow, Finches and Buntings. Group (5) includes only Skylark, which was analysed separately from groups (1) and (2) because of its very different ecology as a field-nesting species. Bird count data was analysed statistically, by using Generalised Linear Models with Poisson error terms, adjusted for over or under dispersion using "deviance/degrees of freedom". Habitats area (field habitats) or length (boundary habitats) were included as offset variables to give relative estimates of bird density. Average bird densities from within these species groups were also analysed in relation to weed-seed and invertebrate densities obtained from headland and crops areas.

#### 3. RESULTS

There was a large variation in the total weed seed produced during the season as seed rain in the headlands (Table 2). Similar variation was also noted for weed biomass on the headlands (Table 3). The main effects were the agronomy and species sown (e.g. at site H11natural regeneration after barley compared to site H6 with sown bird cover). Figures 1 and 2 show that headlands are a potential major source of food for birds.

Seed rain in the crop (Table 4) was lower and tended to be less variable compared to the headland. Again, seedrain tended to mirror biomass (Table 5).

There was a range of weed species present across the sites (see Appendix Tables 4a-4p) but generally a more diverse spectrum in the set-aside compared to the crop.

Ground cover varied across the sites as well (Table 6); no site had less than 37% average cover for the season (lowest = H2 and H11) but some had more than 90% cover (H12, 14, 15, 16)

#### 3.1 Invertebrate Data

Over the two years of study, there were significantly more invertebrates (about 2.5 fold) in the pitfall traps in 2003 than in 2004, probably due to the much warmer weather in the former year, which increased their activity (Appendix Tables 5A and 5B). There was no difference between the crop and the headland in any month or overall three months, nor was there any interaction between year and environment. The majority of invertebrates caught were carabid beetles, followed by surface active collembola, spiders, flies and staphylinid beetles. However, the total numbers mask considerable variation within invertebrate groups.

Over the two years and all months sampled there were significantly more carabid and staphylinid beetles in June and July in 2003 than in 2004 (Appendix Tables 6A and 7A), which contributed most to the results for total invertebrates. There were significantly more parasitoids in 2004 than in 2003 in all three months studied (Appendix Tables 5B, 6B, 7B, 8B). There were no differences between years with most other groups except for 'other coleoptera' and flies in July (Appendix Tables 6A and 6B), and spiders (Appendix Table 7A) in August; in the latter case more were found in 2004 than in 2003.

Most differences were between the headland and crop, and there were very few interactions between year and environment, except for total hymenoptera in June (Appendix Table 6B) and carabids in July (Appendix Table 6A).

Some invertebrates were more numerous in the crop, and some more numerous in the headland, which explains why differences in the overall numbers between the two were negligible. For example, there were 68% more carabids overall in the crop than in headlands, mostly due to greater activity in July and August (Appendix Tables 5A, 7A and 8A). However, many other groups were more abundant in the headland than in the crop, including collembola, woodlice, snails, slugs, total hymenoptera, aphids and total homoptera (Appendix Tables 6A and 6B). Groups that were equally common in both environments, included adult staphylinids, flies, spiders, harvestmen, parasitoids and aphid predators (ladybird adults and larvae, syrphid and lacewing larvae and earwigs) (Tables 5A and 5B).

Over the season, the number of invertebrates was about the same in each of the three months studied, though whether they were all available as bird food is debatable. For example, the many species of most numerous group, carabids, are nocturnal feeders, which might preclude their being available to daytime feeding birds; slugs and snails also tend to be nocturnal, precisely to avoid predation by birds. The variability of food resources in headlands was much greater than in the crop, which might be expected to attract more species of birds to feed there. The major food resources in the crop were carabid beetles.

#### 3.2 Bird Data

A summary of the species groups used in the analysis of birds that were associated with sugar beet headlands are shown in Table 7.

#### 3.3 Interaction with Weeds and Invertebrates

Total bird densities (all species) were correlated with total abundance of monocotyledon and dicotyledon weed-seed abundance in headlands (**Spearmans** *rho* = 0.60; *P*<0.04, **n**=16) but not in the adjacent crops (*rho*= -0.24, *P*<0.32, n=16). Bird densities on crops and headlands combined were related to combined total abundance of monocotyledon and dicotyledon seed, as measured in September (General Linear Models (dev/df=1.34), Likelihood ratio:  $\chi^2_1$  = 46.5, *P*<0.001), or during the whole summer season combined (LR:  $\chi^2_1$  = 19.8, *P*<0.001).

In this study, the densities of birds in headlands were not correlated with any of target invertebrates groups except that, in August, there was a negative correlation with earthworm density (rho = -0.51, P < 0.052, n=16: probably related to sward composition). In the same month, bird densities and total weed-seed availability was significantly and positively correlated on headlands (rho = 0.57, P < 0.05, n=16) but not in adjacent crops (rho = -0.28, P < 0.30, n=16). Seed densities therefore appear to have been a stronger associate of bird abundance than invertebrate densities, and seed-eating species showed the strongest spatial and temporal response within and between headlands.

#### **3.4** Determinants of Bird Densities

There were significant differences in the bird densities recorded on the three field categories: 'headland', 'crop adjacent to headland' and 'Crop without headland', for all analytical groups (Table 8A) with significant differences between farm sites (General Linear Models (dev/df=1.34), Likelihood ratio:  $\chi^2_{15} = 77.1$ , P<0.001) and visit dates (LR:  $\chi^2_1 = 23.3$ , P<0.001). but not years (LR:  $\chi^2_1 = 1.1$ , P < 0.13). The highest bird densities were consistently recorded on the headland rather than the crop, with a significant seasonal increase in density during September and October (Fig. 3). For the bird indicator group and for the seed-eating passerines group, there were significantly higher mean densities of birds on the beet crop adjacent to the headland when compared to the beet crop without headland nearby (Table 8A). For insectivorous passerines the difference was not statistically significant and the difference between the two areas of crop was less pronounced when the three game crop sites were omitted from the analysis (Table 8A). The seasonal effect of the headland was less pronounced for insectivorous species than for seed-eating species but there was still a significant increase in the use of adjacent crops to headlands during August and September by insectivorous birds (Fig. 3). The majority of bird species recorded on headlands were non-native gamebirds (Red-legged Partridge and Ring-necked Pheasant), Pigeons (mainly Woodpigeon, and to a lesser extent Stock Dove) and granivorous passerines particularly in late summer (Fig. 4).

Boundaries adjacent to headlands also supported the highest linear densities of seed-eating passerines throughout the summer and especially in autumn. There was no significant difference in the densities of insectivorous species between boundary types (Table 8B).

#### 4. DISCUSSION

The use of pitfall traps to measure the availability of food for birds is controversial. On the one hand they operate for 24 hours per day and catch those organisms that are active on the soil surface (where many birds would be looking for them), but catch size is dependent on activity as well as abundance, and the former can be affected by the density of the foliage around the traps, and the propensity of potential prey to walk on the soil. It was certainly true that foliage density was much greater in the headlands than in the crop where sugar beet is grown in rows 50 cm apart allowing extensive corridors under the canopy for the most active creatures to move. This probably partially explains the significant increase in carabid numbers within the crop compared to the headland. However, another major reason for the greater carabid numbers is the dominance of one large species, Pterostichus melanarius, in the crop habitat compared to the headland habitat which was much more diverse (see Appendix for species lists). P. melanarius comprised over 75% of the total carabids caught in these and other field trials conducted in sugar beet in recent years (Dewar et al, 2003). Unfortunately for birds, this species is usually nocturnal, and thus avoids predation from daytime feeders. So having a large population of these beetles in fields does not necessarily counteract the otherwise detrimental effect of cropping on the other invertebrates used as food sources by most bird species. Lapwings and stone curlews might be the exception, as they have larger eyes and greater ability to see in low light levels.

The densities of bird species were higher on headlands than in crops and on average the presence of a headland increased the bird abundance 'value' of a field by introducing a new habitat in which to forage. Most of the birds recorded in headlands (thrushes, finches and buntings) were probably foraging there. Some species, such as Skylarks or Grey Partridge, may have nested within the margins, especially the Skylarks in headlands that were in an open location. A predicted increased use, however, of the headlands in late summer and autumn by birds, emphasised the late-season value of the headlands as a food resource, though more for seed-eating finches and buntings than for insectivorous species such as Dunnock, thrushes and wagtails.

Higher bird densities occurred in cropped areas with adjacent headlands compared to cropped areas without adjacent headlands. This difference was likely to have been due to the crop's proximity to the headland rather than any tangible difference in the food quality of the cropped areas as a consequence of being next to the headland (i.e. due to weed ingress from the headland). The association between bird densities and weed-seed densities was not significant in cropped areas, only in headlands. Also, when three sites with game crops adjacent to the headlands were excluded from the analysis, this led to a weaker correlation between headland bird densities and adjacent crop bird densities.

There was a strong difference in bird densities on headlands between sites (fields) and even sites within the same farm. Site location, whole-farm management practices and headland sward-management would all have contributed to habitat suitability, especially as a foraging habitat for birds. Factors that allow birds access to food (patchy sward) and encourage an abundance of food (e.g. weed seeds) are those most likely to have improved the value of headlands for birds.

Weed numbers, species, cover and seed production varied greatly between the headlands but were much less variable in the beet crop. Unfortunately, in this project it was not possible to evaluate the different forms of headlands separately owing to the small replication that would provide. However, the general trend for the headlands to attract birds to the field and into the crop suggests that the use of non-cropped headlands in beet will be particularly beneficial for birds that inhabit farm environments.

#### Acknowledgments

We would like to thank the following individuals and organisations for their input into the project:

All of the farmers and landowners, who kindly allowed us access to their land, Neil Calbrade for BTO field assistance. And colleagues in the Ecology Group at Broom's Barn for collecting and inputting the data.

Project 03/13 was funded by the British Beet Research Organisation, with in kind contributions from British Trust for Ornithology, British Sugar and RSPB.

## **Table 1.**Details of sites studied.

	Year	Type of headland	Date established	Location	Boundaries/ Landscape features	Neighbouring crops
H1	2003	Regeneration	2002	Barrow, Suffolk	Railway, woodland, river and road	Winter wheat all sides
H2	2003	Regeneration from winter wheat	2002	Newmarket, Cambs	Hedges, road, woodland belt, adjacent to setaside wild bird option and maize strip	Sugar beet and winter wheat
H3	2003	Regeneration from barley stubble	2002	Littleport, Cambs	Drains on 2 sides, trees and hedge and trunk road	Setaside on two sides, grass and sugar beet
H4	2003	Regenerated after wheat	2002	Benwick, Cambs	Ditches and farm tracks	Wheat and potatoes
H5	2003	Regenerated after wheat	2001	Baston Fen, Cambs	Dry dykes on 2 sides, river and a grass bank	Wheat
H6	2003	Sown wild bird cover	2003	Doddington, Cambs	Bounded by woodland on 1 side and farm roads on 2 others	Winter wheat on all sides
H7	2003	Regeneration after barley	2002	Lyng, Norfolk	Road on three sides	Beans on 2 sides, oilseed rape and setaside
H8	2003	Regeneration after wheat	1999	Wallington, Norfolk	Ditch and hedge 3 sides, drain	
H9	2004	Regeneration		Barrow, Suffolk	Wood, 1 side sown wild bird cover	
H10	2004	Regeneration after winter barley	2003	Newmarket, Suffolk	Woods at 2 sides, hedge all round	Spring barley, winter barley, spring wheat, triticale and grass
H11	2004	Natural regeneration	2003	Otley, Suffolk	Hedge on 3 sides (1 side plus ditch) and woodland with game cover 1 side	Barley and wheat
H12	2004	Grass and regeneration	2000	Wallington, Norfolk	Woods on 1 side, rides on 2 sides, track on 1 side	Wheat and potatoes
H13	2004	Regeneration after winter wheat	2003	Ashill, Norfolk	Ditches 3 sides, hedge 2 sides	Wheat and sugar beet
H14	2004	Grass		Stowmarket, Suffolk	Green lane on 1 side, trees on others	Sugar beet
H15	2004			Doddington, Cambs		
H16	2004	Natural regeneration in 2001		Baston Fen, Norfolk	Dykes, farm track	Sugar beet, wheat and linseed

BTO Research Report No. 409 June 2005

19

		Viable	Non viable	Viable	Non viable	Bird food	Season
		dicot.	dicot.	monocot.	monocot.	group	total
H1	2003	41796	6035	12011	18199	26178	53366
H2	2003	4928	3370	3818	1956	11269	14072
H3	2003	1456	2735	10050	13572	4352	27813
H4	2003	1719	474	85	356	2303	2633
H5	2003	5182	3175	57091	35128	24731	100576
H6	2003	206180	21370	169	203	226712	227931
H7	2003	115841	45889	17941	6748	176191	186419
H8	2003	5817	1482	18661	21480	4047	47363
H9	2004	17467	5275	872	364	22335	23978
H10	2004	68	279	161	161	508	669
H11	2004	8	51	0	0	59	59
H12	2004	8	0	2379	2515	330	4902
H13	2004	10727	3598	10719	3962	28677	29007
H14	2004	85	8	25	754	17	872
H15	2004	17	17	8670	21395	127	30099
H16	2004	398	119	16485	16061	533	33062

**Table 2.**Seed rain by site for headlands (seeds m<sup>-2</sup>).

		Dead material	Vegetative material	Reproductive material	Total biomass
H1	2003	383.9	6.2	3.2	393.3
H2	2003	286.1	7.3	19.9	313.4
H3	2003	204.4	121.5	10.1	336.1
H4	2003	396.5	19.8	20.4	436.7
H5	2003	402.3	53.0	34.7	490.0
H6	2003	145.7	26.5	409.3	581.5
H7	2003	145.5	4.6	308.5	458.5
H8	2003	352.2	17.7	9.4	379.3
H9	2004	133.1	21.2	38.6	193.0
H10	2004	191.8	0.5	0.0	192.3
H11	2004	1.4	3.9	3.3	8.6
H12	2004	71.0	236.7	30.2	337.9
H13	2004	32.5	25.5	168.9	226.9
H14	2004	9.3	227.0	0.8	237.1
H15	2004	288.7	262.9	114.1	665.8
H16	2004	220.2	238.1	121.7	580.0

**Table 3.**Weed biomass by site for headlands (g DM  $m^{-2}$ ).

		Viable dicot.	Non viable dicot.	Viable monocot.	Non viable monocot.	Bird food	Season total
TT1	2002					group	
H1	2003	2411	1418	8	17	3752	3854
H2	2003	491	483	25	0	821	991
H3	2003	195	93	34	51	229	373
H4	2003	152	229	169	34	576	584
H5	2003	11777	1304	93	25	13157	13200
H6	2003	14453	3641	76	8	18136	18178
H7	2003	136	237	93	34	500	533
H8	2003	85	93	0	0	169	178
H9	2004	1168	643	0	0	1770	1812
H10	2004	25	85	0	0	93	110
H11	2004	0	0	0	0	0	0
H12	2004	0	34	85	34	34	152
H13	2004	93	262	42	42	432	440
H14	2004	34	203	0	0	229	237
H15	2004	0	8	17	178	8	203
H16	2004	51	356	17	152	398	576

Table 4.S	eed rain by site fo	or crop (seeds $m^{-2}$ ).
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		Dead material	Vegetative material	Reproductive material	Total biomass
H1	2003	0.7	2.7	39.4	42.8
H2	2003	0.0	0.1	7.5	7.6
H3	2003	0.8	0.0	1.9	2.7
H4	2003	0.5	3.2	2.1	5.7
H5	2003	0.4	2.9	98.8	102.1
H6	2003	5.5	2.6	46.4	54.5
H7	2003	0.1	0.0	0.3	0.5
H8	2003	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
H9	2004	0.0	0.2	1.6	1.8
H10	2004	0.0	0.1	2.0	2.1
H11	2004	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
H12	2004	0.0	1.1	0.2	1.3
H13	2004	0.0	0.3	7.9	8.3
H14	2004	0.0	0.0	2.9	2.9
H15	2004	19.2	20.5	7.8	47.6
H16	2004	0.0	0.0	4.5	4.5

**Table 5.**Weed biomass by site for crop (g DM  $m^{-2}$ ).

**Table 6.**Seasonal average ground cover on headland (%) and season total weed seed rain<br/>(seeds  $m^{-2}$ ). Highlighting showing sites with low ground cover (<60%) or high seed<br/>production (>50,000 m<sup>-2</sup>). Sites to right hand side of table were excluded from the<br/>analysis as having game cover crops.

	Site	Farmer		Sites without game cover			Sites with game cover		
Site			Year	Season average cover	Season total seed rain	Bird density	Season average cover	Season total seed rain	Bird density
H1	Barrow	Haylock	2003	59	53366	1.691			
H2	Stetchworth	Gabain	2003	37	14072	1.387			
H3	Littleport	Martin	2003	65	27813	0.778			
H4	Benwick	Burton	2003	55	2633	0.283			
H5	Baston Fen	Ward	2003	86	100576	0.375			
H6	Doddington	Boughton	2003				70	227931	2.253
H7	Lyng	Brigham	2003	59	186419	0.906			
H8	Kings Lynn	Holmes	2003	77	47363	0.199			
H9	Barrow	Haylock	2004	53	23978	0.065			
H10	Stetchworth	Gabain	2004				44	669	0.492
H11	Otley	Creasey	2004	37	59	0.087			
H12	Wallington	Luddington	2004	96	4902	0.009			
H13	Ashill	Sears	2004	41	29007	1.204			
H14	Stowmarket	Forrest	2004				94	872	0.113
H15	Doddington	Boughton	2004	96	30099	0.571			
H16	Baston Fen	Ward	2004	95	33062	0.171			

	Species status							
Species name	UK farmland	Biodiversity	Insectivorous	Seed-eating				
	bird index	Action Plan	group	group				
Kestrel	Yes							
Lapwing	Yes	Yes						
Grey Partridge	Yes	Yes						
Barn Owl		Yes						
Turtle Dove	Yes	Yes						
Stock Dove	Yes							
Woodpigeon	Yes							
Skylark	Yes	Yes						
Yellow Wagtail	Yes	Yes	Yes					
Pied Wagtail			Yes					
Meadow Pipit			Yes					
Whitethroat	Yes		Yes					
Dunnock			Yes					
Blackbird			Yes					
Song Thrush		Yes	Yes					
Jackdaw	Yes							
Rook	Yes							
Starling	Yes	Yes	Yes					
House Sparrow				Yes				
Tree sparrow	Yes	Yes		Yes				
Chaffinch				Yes				
Goldfinch	Yes			Yes				
Linnet	Yes	Yes		Yes				
Greenfinch	Yes			Yes				
Bullfinch	Yes	Yes		Yes				
Reed Bunting	Yes	Yes		Yes				
Yellowhammer	Yes	Yes		Yes				
Corn Bunting	Yes	Yes		Yes				

**Table 7.**A summary of the species groups used in the analysis of birds that were associated<br/>with sugar beet headlands.

**Tables 8a and 8b.**Differences in the densities of bird groups between late May and October on:<br/>(A) headland or beet crops or (B) the adjacent boundaries, from 16 beet fields<br/>during 2003 and 2004 combined.

(A) Fields: Densities per ha

	With game crops			Without game crops		
Bird group	A. Headland	B. Crop adjacent to headland	C. Crop without a headland	A. Headland	B. Crop adjacent to headland	C. Crop without a headland
Farmland indicator species	$0.85^{*^\dagger}$	$0.69^{\dagger}$	0.07	$0.78^{*^{\dagger}}$	$0.24^{\dagger}$	0.08
BAP species	$0.46^{*^{\dagger}}$	$0.30^{\dagger}$	0.05	$0.38^{*^{\dagger}}$	$0.09^{\dagger}$	0.04
Seed-eating passerines	$0.60^{*^{\dagger}}$	$0.45^{\dagger}$	0.05	$0.55^{*^{\dagger}}$	$0.10^{\dagger}$	0.03
Insectivorous passerines	$0.12^{*^{\dagger}}$	0.06	0.04	0.13* <sup>†</sup>	0.05	0.02
Skylarks	$0.56^{*^\dagger}$	$0.01^{\dagger}$	0.33			

Likelihood ratio (LR)  $\chi^2$ : \*significant difference (*P*<0.05) with B; <sup>†</sup> significant difference (*P*<0.05) with C. Range of over/under dispersion ("deviance"): 0.71 to 2.83.

## (B) Boundaries: Relative linear densities per 100m

	Summer		Autumn	
Bird group	Adjacent to headland	Boundary without a headland	Adjacent to headland	Boundary without a headland
Farmland indicator species	2.3*	1.7	2.8*	1.2
BAP species	1.4	1.2	2.3*	1.0
Seed-eating passerines	2.6*	2.0	3.5**	1.5
Insectivorous passerines	2.1	2.3	2.2	2.1

Likelihood ratio (LR)  $\chi^2$ : \*significant difference (*P*<0.05). Range of over/under dispersion ("deviance"): 0.92 to 1.84.

Figure 1. Comparison of seed rain on headlands and cropped land (mean of 16 sites).



Figure 2. Comparison of biomass on headlands and cropped land (mean of 16 sites).



**Figure 3.** Trends in bird densities for four amalgamated groups of species between late May and October on headlands ("set-aside"), the 30m strip of crop adjacent to the headland ("Crop near set-aside") and on the 30m strip of crop without an adjacent headland ("Crop"). Three farms sites had margins with game-cover crops present and these are removed in some of the analyses (ie, "no gamecrops"). "Indicator species" are nine recorded birds species (excluding Woodpigeon) that contribute to the Government's farmland bird index; "BAP species" are species subject to national Biodiversity Action Plans, Seed-eating species are Tree Sparrow, finches and buntings; "Insectivorous species" are Meadow Pipit, wagtails, thrushes, Dunnock and Whitethroat.













**Figure 4.** A summary of the total summer count of (the commonest) selected species or species groups using headlands by sugar beet fields. Gamebirds, pigeons (mainly Woodpigeon) and granivorous passerines (sparrows, finches and buntings) were the three most abundant groups.



## APPENDIX

	Weed counts and weed cover			Weed seed rain			Biomass	
H1	12.6.03	16.7.03	20.8.03	24.9.03	16.7.03	20.8.03	24.9.03	24.9.03
H2	19.6.03	17.7.03	19.8.03	1.10.03	17.7.03	19.8.03	1.10.03	1.10.03
Н3	10.6.03	17.7.03	19.8.03		17.7.03	19.8.03	1.9.03	1.9.03
H4	10.6.03	15.7.03	18.8.03		15.7.03	18.8.03	1.9.03	1.9.03
H5	23.6.03	18.7.03	22.8.03		18.7.03	22.8.03	21.9.03	2.9.03
H6	10.6.03	15.7.03	18.8.03	30.9.03	15.7.03	18.8.03	30.9.03	30.10.03
H7	24.6.03	24.7.03	21.8.03	23.9.03	24.7.03	21.8.03	23.9.03	23.9.03
H8	27.6.03	21.7.03	20.8.03	25.9.03	21.7.03	20.8.03	25.9.03	25.9.03
H9	18.5.04	15.6.04	13.7.04	11.8.04	15.6.04	13.7.04	11.8.04	11.8.04
H10	18.5.04	15.6.04	13.7.04	11.8.04	15.6.04	13.7.04	11.8.04	11.8.04
H11	17.5.04	16.6.04	14.7.04	9.8.04	16.6.04	14.7.04	9.8.04	9.8.04
H12	9.6.04	5.7.04	10.8.04		5.7.04	4.8.04		10.8.04
H13	20.5.04	16.6.04	14.7.04	18.8.04	16.6.04	14.7.04	10.8.04	18.8.04
H14	17.5.04	16.6.04	14.7.04	9.8.04	16.6.04	14.7.04	9.8.04	9.8.04
H15	9.6.04	5.7.04	3.8.04		5.7.04	3.8.04		3.8.04
H16	3.6.04	8.7.04	2.8.04		8.7.04	2.8.04		2.8.04

**Table A1.**Weed assessment dates.

Species		Present
Shepherd's purse	Capsella bursa-pastoris	Y
Fathen	Chenopodium album	Y
Fig leaved goosefoot	Chenopodium ficifolia	Y
Many seeded goosefoot	Chenopodium polyspermum	Y
Quinoa	Chenopodium quinoa	Y
Creeping thistle	Cirsium arvense	Y
Spear thistle	Cirsium vulgare	Ν
Hawksbeard spp.	Crepis spp.	Ν
Blackbindweed	Fallopia convulvulus	Y
Fumitory	Fumaria officinalis	Ν
Cats-ears	Hypochoeris spp.	Ν
Hawkbits	Leontodon spp.	Ν
Redshank	Persicaria maculosa	Y
Annual meadow grass	Poa annua	Y
Knotgrass	Polygonum aviculare	Y
Curled dock	Rumex crispus	Y
Groundsel	Senecio vulgaris	Y
Campion spp.	Silene spp.	Ν
Charlock	Sinapis arvensis	Y
Perennial sowthistle	Sonchus arvensis	Y
Prickly sowthistle	Sonchus asper	Y
Smooth sowthistle	Sonchus oleraceus	Y
Sowthistle spp.	Sonchus spp.	Y
Common field chickweed	Stellaria media	Y
Dandelion	Taraxacum officinale	Ν
Clovers	Trifolium spp.	Ν
Scentless mayweed	Tripleurospermum inodorum	Y
Vetches	Vicia spp.	Ν
Field pansy	Viola arvensis	Y

**Table A2.**Species of value to birds (as used to compile the bird food group).

## **Table A4a.**A summary of weeds in set-aside and adjacent crop 2003.

H1 Barrow, Suffolk

Species		Setaside	Crop
<b>*</b>	Crop volunteers		•
Barley	Hordeum distichon	*	
	Grass weeds		
Blackgrass	Alopecurus myosuroides	*	
Barren brome	Anisantha sterilis	*	
Common couch	Elytrigia repens	*	*
Italian ryegrass	Lolium multiflorum	*	*
Annual meadow grass	Poa annua	*	*
Rough meadow grass	Poa trivialis	*	
	<b>Broad-leaved weeds</b>		
Scarlet pimpernel	Anagallis arvensis	*	
Mugwort	Artemisia vulgaris	*	
Common orache	Atriplex patula		*
Fat hen	Chenopodium album	*	*
Figleaved goosefoot	Chenopodium ficifolia		*
Creeping thistle	Cirsium arvense	*	*
Spear thistle	Cirsium vulgare	*	
Willowherb	Epilobium spp.	*	*
Black-bindweed	Fallopia convolvulus		*
Fumitory	Fumaria officinale		*
Cleavers	Galium aparine		*
Doves foot cranesbill	Geranium molle		*
Mayweed sp.	Matricaria spp.		*
Redshank	Persicaria maculosa		*
Plantain	Plantago major		*
Knotgrass	Polygonum aviculare	*	*
Groundsel	Senecio vulgaris	*	*
Prickly sowthistle	Sonchus asper	*	
Sowthistle sp.	Sonchus spp.	*	
Common chickweed	Stellaria media	*	
Scentless mayweed	Tripleurospermum inodorum		*
Small nettle	Urtica urens	*	
Ivy-leaved speedwell	Veronica hederifolia	*	
Common field speedwell	Veronica persica	*	*
Field pansy	Viola arvensis	*	*

## **Table A4b.**A summary of weeds in set-aside and adjacent crop 2003.

H2 Newmarket, Suffolk

Species		Setaside	Crop
	Crop volunteers		
Barley	Hordeum distichon	*	*
	Grass weeds		
Barren brome	Anisantha sterilis	*	*
Common couch	Elytrigia repens	*	
Annual meadow grass	Poa annua	*	*
	<b>Broad-leaved weeds</b>		
Common orache	Atriplex patula		*
Shepherds purse	Capsella bursa-pastoris	*	*
Fat hen	Chenopodium album	*	*
Creeping thistle	Cirsium arvense	*	*
Willowherb	Epilobium spp.	*	*
Canadian fleabane	Erigeron canadensis	*	
Black-bindweed	Fallopia convolvulus		*
Cleavers	Galium aparine	*	
Redshank	Persicaria maculosa		*
Knotgrass	Polygonum aviculare		*
Groundsel	Senecio vulgaris	*	*
Black nightshade	Solanum nigrum	*	
Sowthistle sp.	Sonchus spp.	*	*
Common chickweed	Stellaria media	*	*
Common nettle	Urtica dioica	*	*
Common field speedwell	Veronica persica	*	*
Field pansy	Viola arvensis	*	*
### **Table A4c.**A summary of weeds in set-aside and adjacent crop 2003.

H3 Waterbeach, Cambridgeshire

Species		Setaside	Crop
	Crop volunteers		
Barley	Hordeum distichon	*	*
	Grass weeds		
Blackgrass	Alopecurus myosuroides	*	*
Barren brome	Anisantha sterilis	*	*
Soft brome	Bromus mollis	*	*
Common couch	Elytrigia repens	*	*
Perennial ryegrass	Lolium perenne	*	
Annual meadow grass	Poa annua	*	*
Rough meadow grass	Poa trivialis	*	*
	<b>Broad-leaved weeds</b>		
Fat hen	Chenopodium album	*	*
Creeping thistle	Cirsium arvense	*	*
Spear thistle	Cirsium vulgare	*	
Rough hawksbeard	Crepis biennis	*	
Willowherb	Epilobium spp.	*	*
Cleavers	Galium aparine	*	*
Cut leaved cranesbill	Geranium dissectum	*	
Ground ivy	Glechoma hederifolia	*	
Cats ear	Hypochoeris radicata	*	
Mayweed sp.	Matricaria spp.		*
Knotgrass	Polygonum aviculare	*	
Dock sp.	Rumex spp.	*	*
Groundsel	Senecio vulgaris	*	*
Prickly sowthistle	Sonchus asper	*	
Sowthistle sp.	Sonchus spp.	*	*
Common field speedwell	Veronica persica	*	*
Field pansy	Viola arvensis	*	*
Thyme leaved speedwell	Veronica serpyllifolia	*	

**Table A4d.**A summary of weeds in set-aside and adjacent crop 2003.

H4 Benwick, Cambridgeshir	e
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Species		Setaside	Crop
	Crop volunteers		
Barley	Hordeum distichon	*	
Potato	Solanum tuberosum	*	
Wheat	Triticum aestivum	*	
	Grass weeds		
Barren brome	Anisantha sterilis	*	
Wall barley	Hordeum murinum	*	
Perennial ryegrass	Lolium perenne	*	*
Annual meadow grass	Poa annua	*	*
Rough meadow grass	Poa trivialis	*	
	<b>Broad-leaved weeds</b>		
Common orache	Atriplex patula	*	
Fat hen	Chenopodium album	*	
Creeping thistle	Cirsium arvense	*	
Black-bindweed	Fallopia convolvulus	*	*
Cleavers	Galium aparine	*	*
Mallow	Malva sylvestris	*	
Bristly oxtongue	Picris echioides		*
Knotgrass	Polygonum arvense	*	*
Dock	Rumex spp.	*	
Groundsel	Senecio vulgaris	*	*
Charlock	Sinapis arvense	*	*
Sowthistle sp.	Sonchus spp.	*	*
Common chickweed	Stellaria media	*	*
Scentless mayweed	Tripleurospermum inodorum	*	
Common field speedwell	Veronica persica	*	*
Field pansy	Viola arvensis	*	

**Table A4e.**A summary of weeds in set-aside and adjacent crop 2003.

H5 Baston Fen, Cambridgeshire

Species		Setaside	Crop
-	Crop volunteers		•
Barley	Hordeum distichon	*	
Wheat	Triticum aestivum	*	
	Grass weeds		
Black bent		*	
Barren brome	Agrostis gigantea Anisantha sterilis	*	*
	Anisanina sterius Arrhenatherum elatius	*	*
False oat grass Soft brome	Bromus mollis	*	
Cocksfoot	Dactylis glomerata	*	*
Common couch	Elytrigia repens	*	
Red fescue	Festuca rubra	*	
Yorkshire Fog	Holcus lanata	*	
Wall barley	Hordeum murinum	*	
Perennial ryegrass		*	*
	Lolium perenne	*	
Timothy	Phleum pretense Poa annua	*	*
Annual meadow grass		*	
Smooth meadow grass	Poa pretense	*	*
Rough meadow grass	Poa trivialis		
	<b>Broad-leaved weeds</b>		
Sycamore	Acer platyphyllos	*	
Common orache	Atriplex patula		*
Fat hen	Chenopodium album		*
Fig leaved goosefoot	Chenopodium ficifolia		*
Many seeded goosefoot	Chenopodium polyspermum		*
Creeping thistle	Cirsium arvense	*	*
Field bindweed	Convolvulus arvense	*	
Willowherb	Epilobium spp.	*	
Black-bindweed	Fallopia convolvulus		*
Cleavers	Galium aparine	*	*
Red dead nettle	Lamium purpureum		*
Pale persicaria	Persicaria lapathifolia		*
Redshank	Persicaria maculosa		*
Knotgrass	Polygonum aviculare		*
Creeping buttercup	Ranunculus repens	*	
Dock	Rumex spp.	*	
Ragwort	Senecio jacobea	*	
Groundsel	Senecio vulgaris	*	*
Sowthistle sp.	Sonchus spp.	*	*
Common chickweed	Stellaria media		*
Dandelion	Taraxacum officinale	*	
Scentless mayweed	Tripleurospermum inodorum	*	
Common field speedwell	Veronica persica		*
Field pansy	Viola arvensis		*

# **Table A4f.**A summary of weeds in set-aside and adjacent crop 2003.

H6 Doddington, Cambrigeshire

Species		Setaside	Crop
	Crop volunteers		
Potato	Solanum tuberosum	*	*
	Grass weeds		
False oat grass	Arrhenatherum elatius	*	
Common couch	Elytrigia repens	*	*
Perennial ryegrass	Lolium perenne	*	
Annual meadow grass	Poa annua	*	*
Rough meadow grass	Poa trivialis	*	
	Broad-leaved weeds		
Shepherds purse	Capsella bursa-pastoris	*	
Fat hen	Chenopodium album	*	*
Fig leaved goosefoot	Chenopodium ficifolia	*	*
Quinoa S	Chenopodium quinoa	*	
Creeping thistle	Cirsium arvense	*	
Field bindweed	Convolvulus arvense	*	
Swinecress	Coronopus squamatus	*	
Willowherb	Epilobium spp.	*	
Black-bindweed	Fallopia convolvulus	*	*
Buckwheat S	Fagopyrum esculentum	*	
Cut leaved cranesbill	Geranium dissectum		*
Sunflower S	Helianthus annuus	*	
Cats ear	Hypochoeris radicata	*	
Pineappleweed	Matricaria discoidea	*	
Red dead nettle	Lamium purpureum	*	*
Linseed S	Linum usitatissimum	*	
Mayweed sp.	Matricaria spp.	*	
White millet S	Panicum miliaceum	*	
Pale persicaria	Persicaria lapathifolia	*	
Redshank	Persicaria maculosa	*	*
Bristly ox-tongue	Picris echioidea	*	
Plantain	Plantago nigrum	*	
Knotgrass	Polygonum aviculare	*	*
Groundsel	Senecio vulgaris	*	
White mustard S	Sinapis alba	*	
Charlock	Sinapis arvensis	*	
Black nightshade	Solanum nigrum	*	*
Sowthistle sp.	Sonchus spp.	*	
Common chickweed	Stellaria media	*	
Scentless mayweed	Tripleurospermum inodorum	*	
Small nettle	Urtica urens	*	
Common field speedwell	Veronica persica	*	
Vetch sp. S	Vicia spp.	*	
Field pansy	Viola arvensis	*	*
Maize S	Zea mays	*	

S – sown game cover species

# **Table A4g.**A summary of weeds in set-aside and adjacent crop 2003.

H7 Lyng, Norfolk

Species		Setaside	Crop
<b>_</b>	Crop volunteers		
Barley	Hordeum distichon	*	
D11	Grass weeds	*	
Blackgrass	Alopecurus myosuroides	*	
False oatgrass	Arrhenatherum elatius	*	
Wild oat	Avena fatua	*	
Common couch	Elytrigia repens		
Perennial ryegrass	Lolium perenne	*	.1.
Annual meadow grass	Poa annua	*	*
Rough meadow grass	Poa trivialis	*	
	<b>Broad-leaved weeds</b>		
Scarlet pimpernel	Anagallis arvense	*	
Common orache	Atriplex patula	*	
Shepherds purse	Capsella bursa-pastoris		*
Fat hen	Chenopodium album	*	*
Fig leaved goosefoot	Chenopodium ficifolia	*	
Creeping thistle	Cirsium arvense	*	
Field bindweed	Convolvulus arvense	*	
Willowherb	Epilobium spp.	*	
Canadian fleabane	Erigeron Canadensis	*	
Sun spurge	Euphorbia helioscopa	*	
Black-bindweed	Fallopia convolvulus	*	*
Cleavers	Galium aparine	*	
Cut leaved cranesbill	Geranium dissectum	*	
Nipplewort	Lapsana communis	*	
Mayweed sp.	Matricaria spp.	*	*
Рорру	Papaver rhoeas	*	
Redshank	Persicaria maculosa	*	
Plantain	Plantago major	*	
Knotgrass	Polygonum aviculare	*	*
Buttercup	Ranunculus repens	*	
Groundsel	Senecio vulgaris	*	*
Prickly sowthistle	Sonchus asper	*	
Sowthistle sp.	Sonchus spp.	*	*
Common chickweed	Stellaria media	*	
Dandelion	Taraxacum officinale	*	
Scentless mayweed	Tripleurospermum inodorum	*	*
Small nettle	Urtica urens	*	
Common field speedwell	Veronica persica		*
Field pansy	Veronica persica Viola arvensis	*	

# **Table A4h.**A summary of weeds in set-aside and adjacent crop 2003.

H8 Wallington, Norfolk

Species		Setaside	Crop
<b>_</b>	Grass weeds		
Black bent	Agrostis gigantea	*	
Barren brome	Anisantha sterilis	*	
False oatgrass	Arrhenatherum elatius	*	
Soft brome	Bromus hordaceus	*	
Cocksfoot	Dactylis glomerata	*	
Common couch	Elytrigia repens	*	*
Red fescue	Festuca rubra	*	
Yorkshire fog	Holcus lanatus	*	
Perennial ryegrass	Lolium perenne	*	
Annual meadow grass	Poa annua	*	
Rough meadow grass	Poa trivialis	*	
	Broad-leaved weeds		
Scarlet pimpernel	Anagallis arvense	*	
Creeping thistle	Cirsium arvense	*	
Hawksbeard	Crepis biennis	*	
Willowherb	Epilobium spp.	*	
Canadian fleabane	Erigeron canadensis	*	
Black-bindweed	Fallopia convolvulus	*	
Cleavers	Galium aparine	*	
Doves foot cranesbill	Geranium molle	*	
Cats ear	Hypochoeris radicata	*	
Pineappleweed	Matricaria discoidea	*	
Corn mint	Mentha arvensis	*	
Forget-me-not	Myosotis arvensis	*	
Redshank	Persicaria maculosa		*
Bristly ox-tongue	Picris echioidea	*	
Plantain	Plantago major	*	
Knotgrass	Polygonum aviculare	*	*
Groundsel	Senecio vulgaris	*	*
Madder	Sherardia arvensis	*	
Sowthistle sp.	Sonchus spp.	*	*
Common chickweed	Stellaria media	*	*
Dandelion	Taraxacum officinale	*	
Scentless mayweed	Tripleurospermum inodorum	*	
Coltsfoot	Tussilago farfara	*	
Common field speedwell	Veronica persica	*	
Field pansy	Viola arvensis		*
Thyme leaved speedwell	Veronica serpyllifolia	*	

# **Table A4i.**A summary of weeds in set-aside and adjacent crop 2004.

H9 Barrow, Suffolk

Species		Setaside	Crop
	Crop volunteers		
Weed beet	Beta vulgaris		*
Barley	Hordeum distichon	*	
Wheat	Triticum aestivum	*	
	Grass weeds		
Wild oat	Avena fatua	*	
Common couch	Elytrigia repens	*	
Annual meadow grass	Poa annua	*	
Smooth meadow grass	Poa pretense		*
	<b>Broad-leaved weeds</b>		
Common orache	Atriplex patula	*	*
Shepherd's purse	Capsella bursa-pastoris	*	
Fathen	Chenopodium album	*	*
Fig leaved goosefoot	Chenopodium ficifolia	*	
Creeping thistle	Cirsium arvense	*	
Field bindweed	Convolvulus arvense	*	
Willowherb	Epilobium spp.	*	
Canadian fleabane	Erigeron canadensis	*	
Sun spurge	Euphorbia helioscopa	*	
Cleavers	Galium aparine	*	
Mayweed sp.	Matricaria spp.	*	
Annual mercury	Mercurialis annua	*	*
Redshank	Persicaria maculosa	*	
Bristley oxtongue	Picris echioidea	*	
Knotgrass	Polygonum aviculare	*	
Ragwort	Senecio jacobea	*	
Groundsel	Senecio vulgaris	*	*
White campion	Silene album	*	
Prickly sowthistle	Sonchus asper	*	*
Sowthistle sp.	Sonchus spp.	*	*
Common chickweed	Stellaria media	*	*
Scentless mayweed	Tripleurospermum inodorum	*	
Common field speedwell	Veronica persica	*	
Field pansy	Viola arvensis	*	*

# **Table A4j.**A summary of weeds in set-aside and adjacent crop 2004.

H10 Newmarket, Suffolk

Species		Setaside	Crop
<b>*</b>	Crop volunteers		
Barley	Hordeum distichon	*	
	Grass weeds		
Barren brome	Anisantha sterilis	*	
Annual meadow grass	Poa annua	*	
	<b>Broad-leaved weeds</b>		
Fat hen	Chenopodium album	*	*
Fig leaved goosefoot	Chenopodium ficifolia	*	
Creeping thistle	Cirsium arvense	*	
Black-bindweed	Fallopia convolvulus	*	*
Mayweed sp.	Matricaria spp.	*	
Knotgrass	Polygonum aviculare	*	
Groundsel	Senecio vulgaris	*	*
White campion	Silene album		*
Sowthistle sp.	Sonchus spp.	*	*
Dandelion	Taraxacum officinale	*	
Common field speedwell	Veronica persica	*	*
Field pansy	Viola arvensis	*	*

# **Table A4k.**A summary of weeds in set-aside and adjacent crop 2004.

H11 Otley, Suffolk

Species		Setaside	Crop
	Crop volunteers		
Oilseed rape	Brassica napus		*
Wheat	Triticum aestivum	*	
	Grass weeds		
Barren brome	Anisantha sterilis	*	
Soft brome	Bromus hordaceus	*	
Common couch	Elytrigia repens	*	*
	<b>Broad-leaved weeds</b>		
Spear thistle	Cirsium vulgare	*	
Hawthorn	Crateagus monogyna	*	
Cherry sp.	Prunus spp.	*	
Wild radish	Raphanus raphanistrum	*	
Radish	Raphanus sativus	*	
Groundsel	Senecio vulgaris	*	
Charlock	Sinapis arvensis	*	
Hedge mustard	Sisymbrium officinale	*	
Prickly sowthistle	Sonchus asper	*	
Sowthistle sp.	Sonchus spp.	*	
Common chickweed	Stellaria media	*	

# **Table A41.**A summary of weeds in set-aside and adjacent crop 2004.

### H12 Wallington, Norfolk

Species		Setaside	Crop
	Grass weeds		
Cocksfoot	Dactylis glomerata	*	
Common couch	Elytrigia repens		*
Yorkshire fog	Holcus lanatus	*	
Perennial ryegrass	Lolium perenne	*	*
Annual meadow grass	Poa annua	*	*
Smooth meadow grass	Poa pratense	*	
Rough meadow grass	Poa trivialis	*	
	<b>Broad-leaved weeds</b>		
Scarlet pimpernel	Anagallis arvense		*
Common orache	Atriplex patula		*
Fat hen	Chenopodium album		*
Creeping thistle	Cirsium arvense	*	
Spear thistle	Cirsium vulgare	*	
Black medic	Medicago sativa	*	*
Pineappleweed	Matricaria discoidea		*
Broad leaved plantain	Plantago major	*	
Oak	Quercus spp.	*	
Creeping buttercup	Ranunculus repens	*	
Curled dock	Rumex crispus	*	
Dandelion	Taraxacum officinale	*	
White clover	Trifolium repens	*	

**Table A4m.**A summary of weeds in set-aside and adjacent crop 2004.

H13 Ashill, Norfolk

Species		Setaside	Crop
	Crop volunteers		
Barley	Hordeum distichon	*	
Wheat	Triticum aestivum	*	
	Grass weeds		
Blackgrass	Alopecurus myosuroides	*	
Common couch	Elytrigia repens	*	
Sheeps fescue	Festuca ovina	*	
Italian ryegrass	Lolium multiflorum	*	
Perennial ryegrass	Lolium perenne	*	
Timothy	Phleum pretense	*	
Annual meadow grass	Poa annua	*	*
Rough meadow grass	Poa trivialis	*	
	<b>Broad-leaved weeds</b>		
Common orache	Atriplex patula	*	
Fat hen	Chenopodium album	*	*
Rough hawksbeard	Crepis biennis	*	
Willowherb	Epilobium spp.	*	
Black-bindweed	Fallopia convolvulus	*	
Mayweed sp.	Matricaria spp.	*	
Рорру	Papaver rhoeas	*	
Pale persicaria	Persicaria lapathifolia	*	
Redshank	Persicaria maculosa	*	*
Plantain	Plantago major	*	*
Knotgrass	Polygonum aviculare	*	
Groundsel	Senecio vulgaris	*	*
Prickly sowthistle	Sonchus asper	*	
Sowthistle sp.	Sonchus spp.	*	*
Common chickweed	Stellaria media	*	
Scentless mayweed	Tripleurospermum inodorum	*	
Field pansy	Viola arvensis		*

**Table A4n.**A summary of weeds in set-aside and adjacent crop 2004.

H14 Stowmarket, Suffolk

Species		Setaside	Crop
<b>^</b>	Grass weeds		•
Common bent	Agrostis gigantea	*	
Blackgrass	Alopecurus myosuroides		*
Barren brome	Anisantha sterilis	*	
False oat grass	Arrhenatherum elatius	*	
Soft brome	Bromus hordaceus	*	
Crested dogs tail	Cynosurus cristata	*	
Cocksfoot	Dactylis glomerata	*	
Common Couch	Elytrigia repens	*	
Sheeps fescue	Festuca ovina	*	
Meadow fescue	Festuca pratense	*	
Perennial ryegrass	Lolium perenne	*	
Timothy	Phleum pratense	*	
Smooth meadow grass	Poa pratense	*	
Rough meadow grass	Poa trivialis	*	
	<b>Broad-leaved</b> weeds		
Scarlet pimpernel	Anagallis arvense		*
Common orache	Atriplex patula		*
Shepherds purse	Capsella bursa-pastoris	*	
Common mouse ear	Cerastium fontanum	*	
Fat hen	Chenopodium album	*	
Creeping thistle	Cirsium arvense	*	
Hawthorn	Crateagus monogyna	*	
Ash	Fraxinus excelsior	*	
Cleavers	Galium aparine	*	
Fluellen	Kickxia spuria		*
Prickly lettuce	Lactuca serriola	*	
Mayweed sp.	Matricaria spp.	*	
Plantain	Plantago major	*	
Blackberry	Rubus fruticosus	*	
Dock	Rumex spp.	*	
Groundsel	Senecio vulgaris	*	
Sowthistle sp.	Sonchus spp.	*	
Rowan	Sorbus aucuparia	*	
Corn Spurrey	Spergula arvensis	*	
Dandelion	Taraxacum officinale	*	
Common field speedwell	Veronica persica	*	
Field pansy	Viola arvensis		*

**Table A40.**A summary of weeds in set-aside and adjacent crop 2004.

H15 Doddington, Cambridgeshire

Species		Setaside	Crop
	Crop volunteers		
Potato	Solanum tuberosum		*
Wheat	Triticum aestivum	*	
	Grass weeds		
Bearded couch	Agropyron caninum	*	
Blackgrass	Alopecurus myosuroides		*
Barren brome	Anisantha sterilis	*	
False oat grass	Arrhenatherum elatius	*	
Soft brome	Bromus hordaceus	*	
Sedge sp.	Carex spp.	*	
Cocksfoot	Dactlyis glomerata	*	*
Common couch	Elytrigia repens		*
Hybrid fescue	Festulolium loliaceum	*	
Sheeps fescue	Festuca ovina	*	
Yorkshire fog	Holcus lanatus	*	
Italian ryegrass	Lolium multiflorum	*	
Perennial ryegrass	Lolium perenne	*	*
Annual meadow grass	Poa annua	*	
Rough meadow grass	Poa trivialis	*	*
	<b>Broad-leaved weeds</b>		
Scarlet pimpernel	Anagallis arvense		*
Fat hen	Chenopodium album		*
Spear thistle	Cirsium vulgare	*	
Black-bindweed	Fallopia convolvulus		*
Cleavers	Galium aparine	*	
Red dead nettle	Lamium purpureum		*
Mayweed sp.	Matricaria spp.	*	*
Redshank	Persicaria maculosa		*
Knotgrass	Polygonum aviculare		*
Groundsel	Senecio vulgaris	*	
Scentless mayweed	Tripleurospermum inodorum	*	
Small nettle	Urtica urens	*	*
Field pansy	Viola arvensis	*	

**Table A4p.**A summary of weeds in set-aside and adjacent crop 2004.

H16 Baston Fen, Cambridgeshire

Species		Setaside	Crop
<b>_</b>	Crop volunteers		<b>^</b>
Barley	Hordeum distichon	*	
Wheat	Triticum aestivum	*	
	~ .		
	Grass weeds		
Blackgrass	Alopecurus myosuroides	*	
Barren brome	Anisantha sterilis	*	
False oat grass	Arrhenatherum elatius	*	*
Soft brome	Bromus hordaceus	*	
Cocksfoot	Dactylis glomerata	*	*
Common couch	Elytrigia repens	*	
Fescue sp.	Festuca spp.	*	
Yorkshire Fog	Holcus lanatus	*	*
Wall barley	Hordeum murinum	*	
Perennial ryegrass	Lolium perenne	*	
Annual meadow grass	Poa annua	*	
Flattened meadow grass	Poa compressa	*	
Rough meadow grass	Poa trivialis	*	*
	Broad-leaved weeds		
Fat hen	Chenopodium album		*
	Cirsium arvense	*	
Creeping thistle		*	
Rough hawksbeard Willowherb	Crepis biennis	*	
Black-bindweed	Epilobium spp.		*
	Fallopia convolvulus	*	*
Cleavers	Galium aparine	*	
Cut leaved cranesbill	Geranium dissectum	*	*
Red dead nettle	Lamium purpureum	*	*
Nipplewort	Lapsana communis	Ŷ	.1.
Black medic	Medicago lupulina		*
Redshank	Persicaria maculosa		*
Knotgrass	Polygonum aviculare		*
Curled dock	Rumex crispus	*	
Groundsel	Senecio vulgaris		*
Sowthistle sp.	Sonchus spp.	*	*
Common chickweed	Stellaria media		*
Dandelion	Taraxacum officinale	*	
Coltsfoot	Tussilago farfara	*	
Common field speedwell	Veronica persica		*
Field pansy	Viola arvensis		*

	Carabid adults	Carabid larvae	Staphs adults	Staphs larvae	Other Coleop	Collem- bola	Diptera adults	Spiders	Har'men	Wood- lice	Snails	Slugs
2003												
Headland	219	0.28	8.2	0.19	3.1	77.4	13.1	24.0	2.1	4.4	0.6	1.9
Crop	371	0.08	6.9	0.04	4.2	25.2	12.8	21.8	3.1	0.2	0.1	0.1
2004												
Headland	49	0.20	3.2	0.08	3.7	44.6	10.6	28.8	0.6	8.6	0.7	3.5
Crop	80	0.09	1.5	0.02	6.2	24.7	8.4	23.6	2.1	0.1	0.1	1.0
Mean for both years												
Headland	134	0.24	5.7	0.13	3.4	61.0	11.9	26.4	1.3	6.5	0.6	2.7
Crop	225	0.08	4.2	0.03	5.2	24.9	10.6	22.7	2.6	0.1	0.1	0.6
SED year 14 d.f.	86.0	0.059	1.61	0.050	1.05	11.63	2.53	5.69	2.04	1.67	0.21	0.88
SED env'ment 14 d.f.	32.5	0.063	0.94	0.044	0.70	11.12	1.97	3.55	0.70	1.67	0.23	0.56
SED interaction 14 d.f.	45.9	0.087	1.33	0.063	0.99	15.72	2.78	5.02	1.00	2.37	0.31	0.79
	184.5	0.127	3.45	0.11	2.25	24.95	5.42	12.20	4.37	3.62	0.45	1.88
LSD year	P=0.018	NS	P=0.006	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
LSD env'ment	69.7	0.135	2.02	0.10	1.50	23.84	4.22	7.62	1.51	3.59	0.50	1.19
	P=0.014	P=0.025	NS	P=0.037	P=0.024	P=0.006	NS	NS	NS	P=0.002	P=0.043	P=0.00
LSD interaction	98.5	0.190	2.86	0.13	2.11	33.72	5.97	10.77	2.13	5.08	0.70	1.69
	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
CV%	51	109	54	155	46	73	50	41	102	143	178	97

**Table A5a.**Numbers of invertebrates per pitfall trap in sugar beet and surrounding headlands, 2003-2004: year totals.

	Parasitoids	Total Hymenoptera	Aphids	Total Homoptera	Aphid Predators	Total inverts
2003		<b>_</b>				
Headland	3.1	7.2	3.0	4.3	0.4	371
Crop	1.2	2.0	0.3	0.4	0.3	451
2004						
Headland	6.6	8.1	3.1	4.1	0.4	169
Crop	7.1	7.1	1.1	1.2	0	158
Mean of both years						
Headland	4.9	7.7	3.1	4.2	0.4	270
Crop	4.1	4.6	0.7	0.8	0.2	304
SED year 14 d.f.	1.70	1.64	0.82	0.89	0.10	94.0
SED env'ment 14 d.f.	1.10	1.36	0.83	0.92	0.14	25.1
SED interaction 14 d.f.	1.56	1.92	1.18	1.30	0.20	97.3
	3.65	3.51	NC	1.92	0.22	201.5
LSD year	P=0.015	NS	NS	NS	NS	P=0.020
	2.36	2.91	P=0.013	1.97	0.31	53.9
LSD env'ment	NS	P=0.037	1-0.015	P=0.002	NS	NS
	3.34	4.12	NS	2.79	0.44	206.2
LSD interaction	NS	NS		NS	NS	NS
CV%	69	63		104	144	25

**Table A5b.**Numbers of invertebrates per pitfall trap in sugar beet and surrounding headlands, 2003-2004: year totals.

	Carabid adults	Carabid larvae	Staphs adults	Staphs larvae	Other Coleop	Collem- bola	Diptera adults	Spiders	Har'men	Wood- lice	Snails	Slugs
2003												
Headland	75.0	0.1	2.4	0.1	1.1	20.1	3.8	9.8	0.5	0.7	0.4	0.5
Crop	80.7	0	1.8	0	1.6	9.7	3.7	11.1	1.5	0.1	0	0
2004												
Headland	16.3	0.1	0.8	0	1.2	16.3	2.1	10.0	0.1	1.1	0.1	0.4
Crop	14.0	0	0.4	0	1.5	10.4	2.6	9.6	0.1	0	0	0
Mean for both years												
Headland	45.6	0.1	1.6	0	1.2	18.2	3.0	9.9	0.3	0.9	0.2	0.4
Crop	47.3	0.1	1.1	0	1.6	10.1	3.1	10.3	0.8	0	0	0
SED year 14 d.f.	24.34	0.03	0.43	0.02	0.47	4.76	1.09	4.42	0.82	0.39	0.13	0.18
SED env'ment 14 d.f.	8.57	0.03	0.25	0.02	0.31	2.88	0.45	3.16	0.55	0.38	0.13	0.18
SED interaction 14 d.f.	12.12	0.05	0.35	0.03	0.43	4.08	0.64	4.47	0.78	0.53	0.18	0.26
	52.21	0.07	0.92	0.05	1.00	10.21	2.34	9.49	1.77	0.84	0.28	0.39
LSD year	P=0.022	NS	P=0.004	P=0.023	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
	18.38	0.07	0.54	0.04	0.66	6.18	0.97	6.78	1.18	0.81	0.28	0.39
LSD env'ment	NS	P=0.029	P=0.058	NS	NS	P=0.014	NS	NS	NS	P=0.036	NS	P=0.053
	26.00	0.10	0.76	0.06	0.93	8.75	1.37	9.58	1.66	1.14	0.39	0.55
LSD interaction	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
CV%	52	165	53	197	64	58	42	88	289	231	334	247

**Table A6a.**Numbers of invertebrates per pitfall trap in sugar beet and surrounding headlands, 2003-2004: June.

	Parasitoids	Total Hymenoptera	Aphids	Total Homoptera	Aphid Predators	Total inverts
2003						
Headland	1.1	3.4	1.0	1.3	0.2	122.2
Crop	0.2	0.7	0.1	0.2	0	113.3
2004						
Headland	2.1	2.2	0.6	0.8	0.2	52.7
Crop	4.3	4.3	0.5	0.5	0	43.7
Mean for both years						
Headland	1.6	2.8	0.8	1.1	0.2	87.5
Crop	2.2	2.5	0.3	0.3	0	78.5
SED year 14 d.f.	1.21	1.28	0.30	0.36	0.08	27.05
SED env'ment 14 d.f.	0.98	1.08	0.30	0.35	0.08	11.13
SED interaction 14 d.f.	1.38	1.53	0.43	0.49	0.11	15.74
	2.60	2.75	0.65	0.76	0.17	58.01
LSD year	P=0.050	NS	NS	NS	NS	P=0.022
	2.10	2.32	0.64	0.75	0.18	23.87
LSD env'ment	NS	NS	NS	P=0.056	NS	NS
	2.97	3.28	0.91	1.06	0.25	33.76
LSD interaction	NS	P=0.040	NS	NS	NS	NS
CV%	146	116	162	142	243	38

**Table A6b.**Numbers of invertebrates per pitfall trap in sugar beet and surrounding headlands, 2003-2004: June.

	Carabid adults	Carabid larvae	Staphs adults	Staphs larvae	Other Coleop	Collem- bola	Diptera adults	Spiders	Har'men	Wood- lice	Snails	Slugs
2003												
Headland	85.1	0.1	3.3	0.1	1.4	27.1	5.2	9.5	1.1	2.5	0.1	0.5
Crop	162.4	0	2.0	0	1.1	11.2	4.8	6.7	0.9	0.1	0	0
2004												
Headland	11.5	0.1	0.9	0.1	1.1	18.3	3.6	9.2	0.1	5.8	0.4	1.0
Crop	18.7	0	0.5	0	3.7	9.7	1.5	8.9	0.7	0.1	0	0.1
Mean for both years												
Headland	48.3	0.1	2.1	0.1	1.2	22.7	4.4	9.4	0.6	4.2	0.2	0.8
Crop	90.6	0	1.2	0	2.4	14.0	3.2	7.8	0.8	0.1	0	0.1
SED year 14 d.f.	40.97	0.02	0.69	0.05	0.54	5.11	1.15	1.86	0.81	1.54	0.11	0.27
SED env'ment 14 d.f.	15.83	0.02	0.48	0.04	0.43	3.94	1.04	1.62	0.25	1.54	0.12	0.24
SED interaction 14 d.f.	22.38	0.03	0.67	0.06	0.61	5.48	1.48	2.29	0.36	2.17	0.17	0.34
	87.88	0.05	1.48	0.11	1.16	10.96	2.46	3.99	1.73	3.30	0.25	0.57
LSD year	P=0.019	NS	P=0.015	NS	P=0.059	NS	P=0.052	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
	33.95	0.05	1.02	0.09	0.93	8.46	2.24	3.47	0.54	P=3.29	0.25	0.52
LSD env'ment	P=0.018	P=0.004	NS	NS	P=0.020	P=0.008	NS	NS	NS	0.018	NS	P=0.01
	48.01	0.06	1.44	0.13	1.32	11.96	3.18	4.90	0.77	4.65	0.36	0.73
LSD interaction	P=0.044	NS	NS	NS	P=0.005	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
CV%	65	123	81	265	68	67	78	53	102	207	261	159

**Table A7a.**Numbers of invertebrates per pitfall trap in sugar beet and surrounding headlands, 2003-2004: July.

	Parasitoids	Total Hymenoptera	Aphids	Total Homoptera	Aphid Predators	Total inverts
2003		<b>_</b>				
Headland	1.3	2.6	1.1	1.7	0.2	141.3
Crop	0.2	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.2	190.4
2004						
Headland	2.6	2.9	2.5	2.9	0.2	59.0
Crop	1.5	1.5	0.6	0.6	0	46.5
Mean for both years						
Headland	1.9	2.7	1.8	2.3	0.2	100.2
Crop	0.8	1.0	0.4	0.4	0.1	118.5
SED year 14 d.f.	0.46	0.61	0.48	0.49	0.09	40.92
SED env'ment 14 d.f.	0.35	0.40	0.49	0.50	0.09	15.75
SED interaction 14 d.f.	0.50	0.57	0.69	0.70	0.13	22.28
	0.99	1.30	1.03	1.06	0.20	87.77
LSD year	P=0.017	NS	NS	NS	NS	P=0.015
	0.75	0.86	1.05	1.07	0.19	33.79
LSD env'ment	P=0.008	P<0.001	P=0.011	P=0.002	NS	NS
	1.07	1.21	1.48	1.51	0.27	47.78
LSD interaction	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
CV%	72	61	125	104	187	41

**Table A7b.**Numbers of invertebrates per pitfall trap in sugar beet and surrounding headlands, 2003-2004: July.

	Carabid adults	Carabid larvae	Staphs adults	Staphs larvae	Other Coleop	Collem- bola	Diptera adults	Spiders	Har'men	Wood- lice	Snails	Slugs
2003												
Headland	59	0	2.6	0	0.6	30.2	4.1	4.7	0.5	1.3	0.1	0.9
Crop	128	0.1	3.1	0	1.5	4.3	4.4	4.0	0.7	0	0.1	0
2004												
Headland	21	0.1	1.5	0	1.4	10.0	4.9	9.6	0.4	1.7	0.3	2.2
Crop	47	0.1	0.7	0	1.0	4.6	4.3	5.2	1.3	0.1	0.1	0.9
Mean for both years												
Headland	40	0.1	2.0	0	1.0	20.1	4.5	7.1	0.5	1.5	0.2	1.5
Crop	88	0.1	1.9	0	1.3	4.4	4.3	4.6	1.0	0.1	0.1	0.5
SED year 14 d.f.	32.4	0.04	0.92		0.33	5.66	1.47	1.24	0.49	0.47	0.07	0.70
SED env'ment 14 d.f.	20.4	0.03	0.54		0.33	5.85	1.21	1.19	0.24	0.46	0.09	0.28
SED interaction 14 d.f.	28.9	0.04	0.77		0.47	8.27	1.71	1.68	0.34	0.65	0.12	0.40
	69.4	0.09	1.96	NC	0.70	12.14	3.15	2.67	1.01	1.00	0.16	1.49
LSD year	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	P=0.029	NS	NS	NS	NS
	43.8	0.06	1.16	NS	0.71	12.54	2.59	2.55	0.51	0.98	0.19	0.60
LSD env'ment	P=0.036	NS	NS	IND	NS	P=0.018	NS	P=0.048	NS	P=0.008	NS	P=0.002
	62.0	0.08	1.65	NS	1.01	17.73	3.67	3.61	0.73	1.39	0.26	0.86
LSD interaction	NS	NS	NS	IND	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
CV%	91	141	78		83	135	78	58	94	170	184	81

**Table A8a.**Numbers of invertebrates per pitfall trap in sugar beet and surrounding headlands, 2003-2004: August.

	Parasitoids	Total Hymenoptera	Aphids	Total Homoptera	Aphid Predators	Total inverts
2003						
Headland	0.8	1.3	1.0	1.3	0.1	107.2
Crop	0.7	0.8	0	0.1	0.1	147.0
2004						
Headland	2.0	3.1	0	0.5	0	57.7
Crop	1.4	1.4	0	0	0	67.6
Mean years						
Headland	1.4	2.2	0.5	0.9	0.05	82.5
Crop	1.1	1.1	0	0.1	0.05	107.3
SED year 14 d.f.	0.33	0.51	0.49	0.57	0.04	36.88
SED env'ment 14 d.f.	0.27	0.57	0.49	0.58	0.04	17.05
SED interaction 14 d.f.	0.38	0.80	0.69	0.82	0.06	24.11
	0.70	1.10	1.04	1.22	0.10	79.09
LSD year	P=0.014	P=0.037	NS	NS	NS	NS
-	0.57	1.22	1.05	1.24	0.10	36.56
LSD env'ment	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
	0.81	1.72	1.49	1.76	0.14	51.71
LSD interaction	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
CV%	63	98	528	359	254	51

**Table A8b.**Numbers of invertebrates per pitfall trap in sugar beet and surrounding headlands, 2003-2004: August.